

## **WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

### **COMMITTEE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**DATE: OCTOBER 22, 2009**

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#### **Committee Members Present:**

Supervisors    Tessier  
                     Bentley  
                     O'Connor  
                     Kenny  
                     VanNess  
                     Taylor

#### **Committee Member Absent:**

Supervisor    Goodspeed

#### **Others Present:**

Kate Hogan, District Attorney  
Robert Iusi, Director of Probation  
Frederick Monroe, Chairman  
Hal Payne, Commissioner of Administrative & Fiscal  
                     Services  
Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board  
Supervisors    Strainer  
                     Girard  
                     Sokol  
                     Thomas  
Bud York, Sheriff  
Thom Randall, *The Adirondack Journal*  
Don Lehman, *The Post Star*  
Joanne Collins, Legislative Office Specialist

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Mr. Tessier called the meeting of the Criminal Justice Committee to order at 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. VanNess and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2009 Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Kate Hogan, District Attorney (DA), who stated that the Crime Victims Board grant allowed for the funding of two positions with in-kind contributions from Warren County. She presented a request to amend the County Budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$4,420 to reflect receipt of funds from the 2009/2010 Crime Victims Board (CVB) grant to be used for the Crime Victim Assistance Program. She noted that the CVB had expanded the Crime Victim Program as a result of the reporting of outcomes compiled and submitted by the DA's Office.

Concurrent with the request to amend the County Budget, Ms. Hogan presented a request for a transfer of funds in the amount of \$5,680 from various codes to Code No. A.1168 130 - Salaries Part-time, which would allow the Crime Victim Specialist position to be extended to full-time. She noted that the cost was fully funded by CVB and County funds were not required.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the county budget and the request for the transfer of funds as outlined above, and to refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the request to Amend County Budget and the request for Transfer of Funds are on file with the minutes.*

Privilege of the floor was extended to Robert Iusi, Probation Director, who stated that he would proceed with three requests which were necessary relative to funding streams in the Probation Department for the coming year.

Mr. Iusi presented a request to extend the agreement with the New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (NYS DPCA) for Probation Eligible Diversion Funding, from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010, for a total amount not to exceed \$23,000.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the agreement with the NYS DPCA as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 20, 2009 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. VanNess asked if the funding would be eliminated and Mr. Iusi apprised that funding had gradually been reduced over time with a 6% reduction for this year. The funding of \$23,000, he stated, far exceeded the typical 15%, and therefore was worthwhile to pursue.

The second request presented by Mr. Iusi was a request to extend the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Warren County Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Probation Department for Preventive Services, from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2014, for a total amount not to exceed \$60,000 (annual salary and fringe benefits), to support one Probation Officer position. In terms of the preventive funding stream split between the NYS DCPA and Warren County, Mr. Iusi stated that the split had been 65/35 respectively, and subsequently adjusted to the current ratio of 63/37. He asserted that this was viable support for one Probation Officer.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. O'Connor and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the MOU between Warren County DSS and the Probation Department as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 20, 2009 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

The final request presented by Mr. Iusi was to extend an agreement with the New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternative (NYS DCPA) for Alternatives to Incarceration Service Plan updates, from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2014, necessary for pre-trial release programs. Mr. Iusi noted that this funding stream through the NYS Division of Probation had also been reduced over many years; however, he stated, it was wise to seek all available funding for which this was estimated to be approximately \$10,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. VanNess and carried unanimously to approve the request to extend the agreement with the NYS DPCA for plan updates as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 20, 2009 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Regarding the impact of the Governor's deficit reduction plan on the Probation Department, Mr. Iusi explained that Warren County Probation was largely unaffected by the reductions. He further stated that the proposal would not affect local aid to Probation; however, he said, it could affect Probation's Alternative to Incarceration funding for pre-trial activities, as well as Probation Diversion funds, which supported the work of the Drug Court.

There being no further business to come before the Criminal Justice Committee, on motion by Mr. VanNess and seconded by Mr. Bentley, Mr. Tessier adjourned the meeting at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Collins, Legislative Office Specialist